



Facts & Figures



Park Website	nps.gov/romo
Twitter	twitter.com/rmnpofficial
Like Us on Facebook	at Rocky Mountain National Park
Flickr	flickr.com/photos/rocky_mountain_np
Park Information	(970) 586-1206
Trail Ridge Road & Bear Lake Road Recorded Status Line	(970) 586-1222
Beaver Meadows Visitor Center 1000 U. S. Highway 36 Estes Park, Colorado 80517	Kawuneeche Visitor Center 16018 U. S. Highway 34 Grand Lake, Colorado 80447

Mission and Significance

Rocky Mountain National Park Mission
The National Park Service’s mission at Rocky Mountain National Park is to care for, protect, manage, improve, understand and interpret park resources and to provide for a high-quality visitor experience.

Park Significance
Significance statements capture the essence of the park’s importance to the nation’s natural and cultural heritage
Rocky Mountain National Park provides exceptional accessibility to a wild landscape with dramatic scenery, opportunities for solitude and tranquility, wildlife viewing and a variety of recreational opportunities.

The fragile alpine tundra encompasses one-third of the park and is one of the main scenic and scientific features for which the park was

established. This is one of the largest examples of alpine tundra ecosystems preserved in the National Park System in the lower 48 states.

The park, which straddles the Continental Divide, preserves some of the finest examples of physiographic, biologic, and scenic features of the Southern Rocky Mountains. The park contains the headwaters of several river systems including the Colorado River. Geologic processes, including glaciation, have resulted in a varied and dramatic landscape. Elevations span from 7,630 feet to 14,259 feet atop Longs Peak, a landmark feature.

The park’s varied elevations encompass diverse ecosystems where wilderness qualities dominate. Varied plant and animal communities and a variety of ecological processes prevail.

2011 Visitation

January	72,234	July	772,811
February	53,636	August	646,032
March	78,765	September	505,959
April	83,123	October	273,774
May	173,612	November	74,590
June	527,997	December	73,329
Total Number of Visitors in 2011: 3,335,862. It was the third busiest season on record.			

Size and Features

Gross Acres / Hectares:	265,800 / 107,600 (includes inholdings)
Square Miles / Kilometers	415 / 1075
Wilderness Acres / Hectares	Designated 252,085 / 102,015 Potential additions 360 / 146 94.8% of the park is designated Wilderness
Tundra Acres / Hectares	89,099 / 36,057
Elevations Feet / Meters	Bear Lake 9,475 / 2,887 Milner Pass/Continental Divide 10,758 / 3,548
Highest Elevation in the Park Feet / Meters	Longs Peak 14,259 / 4,346
Average Annual Precipitation Inches/Cm	Estes Park 14.79 / 37.57 Grand Lake 20.36 / 51.71
Lakes	147 lakes, many with fish 1,151 acres / 466 hectares

Visitor Centers		Alpine, at Fall River Pass - elevation 11,796’ (3,595 m) Beaver Meadows, at Park Headquarters, U. S. Highway 36 west of Estes Park - elev 7,840’ (2,390 m) Fall River, on U. S. Highway 34 west of Estes Park - elevation 8,250’ (2,515 m) Kawuneeche, on U. S. Highway 34 north of Grand Lake - elevation 8,720’ (2,658 m) Moraine Park, on Bear Lake Road - elevation 8,140’ (2,481 m)		
Camping	Campground	Number of Sites	Backcountry Campsites	Number of Sites
	Aspenglen	54	Individual & Group	185
	Glacier Basin & Group	CLOSED IN 2012	Accessible	1
	Longs Peak	26	Crosscountry Areas	48
	Moraine Park	244		
	Moraine Park Group	Summer 2012: 3		
	Timber Creek	98		
Entrance Stations	Beaver Meadows	West of Estes Park, U. S. Highway 36		
	Fall River	West of Estes Park, U. S. Highway 34		
	Grand Lake	North of Grand Lake, U. S. Highway 34		
	Wild Basin	North of Allenspark, Colorado Highway 7		
Species	Birds	280		
	Fish	7 native 4 exotic		
	Mammals	66 species are known to be native to the area, but three of these - grizzly bear, gray wolf, and bison - have been extirpated (are locally extinct), and two others - lynx and wolverine - are either extirpated or extremely rare		
	Butterflies	139 confirmed species		
	Vascular Plants	Approximately 1100		
Federally Listed Threatened, Endangered & Candidate Species in RMNP	Threatened	Endangered	Candidate	
	Greenback cutthroat trout	(none)	wolverine	
	Canada lynx			
	<i>Endangered</i> means the species could become extinct; <i>Threatened</i> means the species could become endangered			
Exotic Species	100+ Non-native plants			
	9 Non-native vertebrate species			
Wildlife Population Estimates	Bears	20-24 (based on 2004-2006 research)		
	Bighorn Sheep	350+ (2004 estimate)		
	Coyotes	Common		
	Deer	500 in Estes Valley in winter, more in summer (2006 estimate)		
	Elk	600-800 winter in the park		
	Moose	30-50 on west side; uncommon on east side		
	Mountain Lions	No actual research-based counts; 20-30 a good “guesstimate”		
Roads and Trails	Paved Roads	92 miles / 148 kilometers		
	Unpaved Roads	28 miles / 45 kilometers		
	Hiking Trails	Approximately 355 miles / 571 kilometers		
	Scenic Roads			
	Trail Ridge Road	Closed in winter; 2011 Open/Close dates June 6 - October 22		
	Old Fall River Road	Closed in winter; 2011 Open/Close dates July 30 - October 14		
	Bear Lake Road ★	Year-round access to scenic areas and trails along this corridor		
	★Major Reconstruction Project in 2012 - 2013			
Designations	January 26, 1915	Establishment of Rocky Mountain National Park (16 USC 191)		
	1977	Inclusion in the international system of Biosphere Reserves (UNESCO)		
	1978	Establishment & designation of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail including sections within RMNP (Public Law 95-625)		
	1986	Designation of the Cache la Poudre River within RMNP (14 miles as Wild River) as a unit of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System		
	1996	Designation of Trail Ridge Road as an All American Road by the U. S. Department of Transportation (National Scenic Byways Program) and designated as a State Scenic Byway		
	2001	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center (Headquarters) designated a National Historic Landmark		
	March 30, 2009	Addition of approximately 249,339 acres of RMNP in the National Wilderness Preservation System (Public Law 111-11)		
	A variety of sites in RMNP are on the National Register of Historic Places, including prehistoric archeological sites, buildings, structures including roads and bridges, and even a snowplow			
2011 Critical Incidents	Law Enforcement Incidents	1231	Prescribed Burns	12
	Search and Rescue Incidents	239	(including pile burns)	
	Fatalities	4	Wildfires	3
	Emergency Medical Responses	195		
2011 Staff	Permanent and Term Employees	186		
	Seasonal and Temporary Eemployees	258		
	Volunteers	1698 / 104,725 hours donated		
The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage. EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA				
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